



## May- 2005 Newsletter

**The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.**  
**Organized, 1902**

### Presidents Message

I recently saw the movie Kingdom of Heaven which is about two major armies both of different religious beliefs fighting for Jerusalem. The movie highlights fierce barbaric battles with brief periods of peace. The main character in the movie is motivated by the vow he took to be a knight, where he promised above all else to protect the people in his kingdom. Throughout the story he resists others who are motivated by greed, egos, religious fanaticisms, and various other agendas. The link to current events today is obvious from its setting in the Middle East to battles between Christianity and Muslim.

The link to the fire service may not be so obvious. You may think I am going to start talking about terrorism again, but I am not. I am talking about the fire services inability to stop fighting between career and volunteer. Sure we have periods of peace, but we seem to always have the return of this issue. I have been in the fire service for over 25 years and seen many people come and go, but this issue always seems to be just below the surface. I am sure my comments will irk some of my brother and sister firefighters but we are failing the people we have promised to protect. When we let this issue creep into our decision making and let things like ego influence our decisions we are not acting like Chiefs (knights). The immediate response I usually get here when I get on my pulpit is one side starts blaming the other. My response to that is, if you're blaming the other side, you are not fulfilling your promise of protecting the people. My department is a combination department and I can tell dozens of stories where one side has felt wronged by the other side (that goes both ways). The bottom line here is as Chief Officers we need to put mission first, egos and agendas second. One fire service, one voice, one mission to protect the people, anything less should cause you to question your knighthood.

Chief Peter Struble  
President

Please forward newsletter questions, comments, suggestion and additional articles/photos to:

John Evans Office: 800 835-0740  
Marketing Manager Cell: 203 415-2067  
United Cleaning and Restoration, LLC email: [jevans@unitedcr.com](mailto:jevans@unitedcr.com)



## May- 2005 Newsletter

### **The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc. Organized, 1902**

The April 26, 2005 meeting of the Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association was held at the Adams Mill Restaurant in Manchester, Connecticut.

The meeting was called to order by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Fred Dudek at 7:02 P.M. President Dudek called on Reverend David Williamson to give the Invocation. Our Reverend then led us in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag. President Dudek called on our Host Chief for a few words of welcome. Chief Litrico introduced his officers who were present at the meeting. Chief Litrico wished us a very educational meeting and to enjoy the meal.

The meeting recessed for dinner at 7:08 P.M.

The meeting reconvened at 8:09 P.M.

#### **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Our scheduled speakers did not show. So President Dudek asked the President of the State Firefighters Association for a few words. Bill McAllister spoke on the Volunteer Fire Service, Workmen's Compensation, and the General Liability. Bill did a very good job filling in for the speakers who did not show. President Dudek thanked Bill McAllister for the excellent presentation.

#### **MINUTES**

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Minutes as printed. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

A motion was made and seconded to accept the Treasurer's Report as printed. Motion passed.

#### **C.F.P. & C.**

See Jeff's attached report

#### **LEGISLATION**

Ted Schroll passed around copies of the Legislation report. Ted has done an excellent job on keeping us up to date on what Bills pertaining to the Fire Service and where they are progressing.

#### **E.M.S.**

See Dave Dagon's attached report.

#### **CONNECTICUT FAIR PLAN**

See Dave Dagon's attached report.



## May- 2005 Newsletter

**The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.**  
**Organized, 1902**

### **I.A.F.C.**

Chief Wall had plenty of handout material for the Fire-Rescue International in Denver, Colorado.

### **N.E.A.F.C.**

Chief Trainor spoke on the Conference in June. He stated that if you plan to go to dinner, make your arrangements with Retired Chief Dave Jorsey.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

One application was read for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:

Peter C. Schaumburg Apparatus Sales & Service Milford, Ct Associate Membership

A motion was made & seconded to accept the applicant into Full Membership. Motion passed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Two applications were read for the 1<sup>st</sup> Reading:

Chief Kenneth J. Seondariato Norwich Fire Dept Active Membership

Asst. Chief Thomas, Dillon Windsor Fire Dept. Active Membership

A motion was made and seconded to have the applications take their usual course. Motion passed.

**CORRESPONDENCE** - None

### **GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION**

Charlie McInerney collected \$ 90 for the Andy Flanagan Fund. Wear your name tag and save a buck !!

Rev. David Williamson gave the Benediction.  
The meeting adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Attended - 85

Meal - \$24

Respectfully submitted,

Ret. Chief Edward F. Haber  
Secretary



## May- 2005 Newsletter

**The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.**  
**Organized, 1902**

### Prime Movers

Attached please find the initial pictures of the prime movers taken during the first inspection trip last month. The final inspection will be completed next week and we are anticipating vehicles arriving in CT in late June.

Vehicles will be distributed in the same order as the decon trailers with the exception of the state agencies. The State entities will receive vehicles after the local agencies have received theirs.

A team composed of the CSP Truck Squad and Dept. of Motor Vehicle Inspectors will conduct the final inspection on all vehicles in Connecticut to ensure compliance with contract specifications.

All correspondence with the Municipalities and registration issues will be handled through this office. Please inform any Agencies with questions to contact me. This will allow the vendor to concentrate on preparing the vehicles.

Please share this information with your membership in the newsletter and contact me with any questions or concerns that may come up. I will forward information as it becomes available.

Thank you for your assistance in distributing this information.

Rosemary Salerno

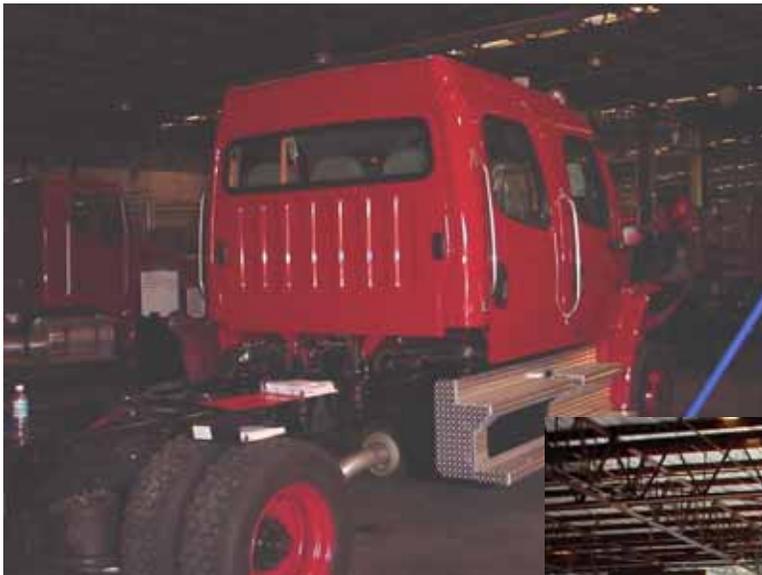
Rosemary Salerno [Rosemary.Salerno@po.state.ct.us]





# May- 2005 Newsletter

The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.  
Organized, 1902





## **May- 2005 Newsletter**

### **The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc. Organized, 1902**

#### **Connecticut Fire Chiefs Association**

April 26, 2005 Meeting  
Jeffrey Morrissette, State Fire Administrator

#### **Commission on Fire Prevention and Control Information Update**

Robert Walsh (D/C Hartford F.D.) representing the Uniformed Professional Firefighters Association of CT (UPFFA) was formally appointed by Gov. Rell to the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control replacing Daniel Milewski.

The Joint Council of Fire Service Organizations met on April 13<sup>th</sup> with representatives of the Pennsylvania Fire Service Institute to discuss establishment of a Fire Service Caucus within the General Assembly.

CT Fire Officer's Weekend at the National Fire Academy is this weekend (April 29 - May 1).

Fire Service Day at the Capitol is scheduled for May 11, 2005. Fire Chiefs should contact local legislators and make an appointment to meet with them and encourage them to visit displays set-up, in the Concourse area between the Capitol and the Legislative Office Building.

NFA Advanced Safety Operations and Management Course is scheduled for delivery as part of the June Fire School on June 4-9, 2005. Participants must complete a FEMA Application as well as the CFA Student Application.

June Fire School is scheduled for June 4-10, 2005. Course information will be available on our Website later this week.

CFA is offering Introduction to the- Fire Service Cadet Camp on June 24-29 and July 6- 10, 2005.

(Basic) Juvenile Fire setter Intervention Training program is scheduled for May 14-15 in Cromwell at the Coles Road Fire Station. No charge for this program

National Fire and Public Safety Honor Guard Academy is being hosted by the Connecticut Statewide Honor Guard and Connecticut Fire Academy May 8-14 at the CFA.

Free NIMS Informational Sessions are being conducted-throughout the state. Sessions are appropriate for FD personnel, EMS, governmental officials, public works, etc, Contact the CFA if interested in hosting a session.

At their March meeting, the Commission passed a Certification eligibility policy which various levels of training leading to certification. For a copy of the policy contact Fred Piechota, Director of Certification or visit the Commission's web page.

2005 LAH Voucher Program, only 56 of the 165 eligible fire companies have responded thus far to a letter mailed in early March requesting their selection of either a training voucher or direct payment of \$530. Voucher has to be expended no later than June 15<sup>th</sup>.



## **May- 2005 Newsletter**

**The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.**  
**Organized, 1902**

### **EMS Report - April 105**

CT EMS Advisory Board regular meeting - April 13<sup>th</sup>

Appointment verification of EMS Board member status continues with requests for members to submit appointment letters.

#### **EMT-Intermediate**

Data has been collected and sent to Dr. Wolf for review. Only 38 patient care records were submitted for review. The lack of data is a concern regarding the legitimacy and long term outlook for the Intermediate program.

#### **Scope of Practice**

The updated draft of the Scope of Practice has been posted on the website.

The proposed EMT is similar to CT's EMT-B

The proposed Paramedic is similar to CT's EMT-Paramedic

The proposed A-EMT is similar in some ways to CT's current EMR-I

#### **EMS Reporting requirements**

Twelve (12) of the 189 statewide EMS services have not satisfied EMS reporting requirements. Registered letters have gone out to the Chiefs of Service, Regional Coordinators, and Chief Elected Officials.

#### **Memo from Dr. Zanker, MD,, Medical Director, OHMS**

A skills/equipment clarification memo was sent out to all Medical Directors, EMS Coordinators, Regional Council Chairs.

The memo identifies skills and equipment allowed at the various provider levels and reminds individuals to operate within the current EMS scope of practice and applicable Regulations. Any deviation from Regulation may place you and your sponsored service at risk despite any prior approval received from the OEMS.

Respectfully Submitted,  
David Dagon



## **May- 2005 Newsletter**

**The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.**  
**Organized, 1902**

### **FAIR Plan Report - April 05**

David J. Dagon  
Emergency Services Administrator  
Town of Mansfield  
(860) 429-3364

#### **STIPENDS**

6 Stipend Requests were received and approved for the following seminars/conferences:

1 request for the 19th Annual Rhode Island Fire Investigation Seminar was approved. Partial funding up to the annual limit was approved; the individual had received a seminar stipend of \$185.00 in August-04.

The annual for Seminar Stipends is \$250

3 requests for the National IAAI conference in Arlington, VA were approved.

2 requests to attend the Advanced Fire Investigation program at the CT Fire Academy were approved.

#### **GRANTS**

4 Grant Requests were received and approved for up to the limit of \$500, requested equipment included:

Digital cameras

An Ink Jet printer, photo paper, printer cable, black ink, cyan ink and yellow ink to document at risk structures, Fire investigation and for public education.

#### **ARSON TIP AWARD**

Two applications for Arson Tip Awards were received. The committee vow to approve the following award:

\$250.00

\$1,000.00

Respectfully Submitted  
David J. Dagon



## May- 2005 Newsletter

**The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.**  
**Organized, 1902**

### **Communications Interoperability Working Group** **15 March 2005** **Minutes**

#### **WELCOME, PUBLIC COMMENT and REVIEW OF MINUTES:**

The meeting was called to order at 1307 by the Chair, Mike Varney.

The following individuals were present: Bob DiBella (Glastonbury EMD/DEMHS), Chuck Beck (DEMHS), Keith Victor (W. Hartford/CREPC), Steve Brown (CONNDOT), George Carbonell (CONNDOT), Jerry Zarwanski (OSET), Joan Can-asquillo (OSET), Peter Beckwith (USAR), Chris Nolan (CSP), Gordon Shand (DPH), Bernie O'Donnell (DOIT), Jeff Otto (QVEC), Phil Mikan (USCG), Paul Jakobson (Madison PD/CPCA), Richard Tsou (New Haven/LJASI), Robert Muller (New Haven PD), Andrew Campion (New Haven FD). Additionally, guests from ODP/ICTAP (Doug Harder) and Nextel (Jacqueline Gallus). The 08 February 2005 minutes were reviewed, voted on and approved.

#### **OLD BUSSINESS:**

**A. Radio Inventory:** No report available. I-CALL/TAC 800 MHz handheld radio was held in Danbury last month but another session was rescheduled to 31 March due to bad weather. Several members expressed a need for I-C AC I-CALL/TAC "refresher training" to be held. There was discussion about using the VHS tapes of the training provided to each municipal Emergency Management Director to allow municipalities to train their own and any new members of their forces. On 31 March, Ellington is holding a radio distribution meeting for stragglers.

There was no report on the Control Stations. However, members were provided a draft of a letter intended to be sent all PSAPs reminding them of the "rules and regulations" that they are obligated to follow with respect to the I-CALL/TAC equipment and system. These rules would apply to the handheld radios as well. All members of the workgroup were asked to provide feedback on the draft letter to Chuck Beck by Friday 18 March.

**B. Radio Testing and Training:** Keith Victor reported that the CREPC will no longer be conducting monthly tests due to unresolved technical issues. The technical issues have been documented in the minutes of previous meetings. If steps have been taken to resolve the issues, notifications have not been made. It was requested that DPS/CSP review past minutes, identify the problematic issues, take steps to correct the problems and report to the workgroup any corrective actions that have been taken

It was reported that testing of the I-CALL/TAC system would commence in Northeast Connecticut soon. It was also reported that the I-CALL/TAC system was recently used during the natural gas explosion and fire in Putnam. There were some problems activating the system and getting people to understand the use of the radios but overall I-CALL/TAC was a useful tool. It was also reported that as the group was meeting a decon trailer and I-CALL/TAC system were being used in a response to an incident in Milford.



## May- 2005 Newsletter

**The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.**  
**Organized, 1902**

**C. Technical Sub-Committee Update:** George Carbonell handed out a 15 March 2005 DRAFT of the State Tactical On Scene Channel System (STOCS), otherwise known as the VTACIUTAC system. All present were asked to review the document and to provide feedback to George no later than 31 March 2005. The goal is to get the SOP/plan in final form by the next workgroup meeting so that it could then be presented to and approved by the members of the Emergency Management and Homeland Security Coordinating Council (EMHSCC) at their 14 April meeting. It was reported that responders in the CREPC area were already loading the frequencies in their radios.

It was reported that the specifications on the "3 unit box" were moving along. In response to a question, it was stated that the VCALL/UCALL implementation is targeted for Fall 2005. A vote was taken unanimously approving the title of the system as STOCS.

**D. Telecommunications Accomplishments Report:** Gordon Shand provided a revised draft document that details the accomplishments of the interoperable communications workgroup. Once again all members are asked to critically review the document and provide feedback to Gordon NLT 31 March. The goal is to get the finished product to the EMHSCC on 14 April so that it can be approved and then distributed widely about CT. He received comments from two members of the workgroup related to the draft he distributed. Gordon will try to put the finishing touches on the article. The goal is to get the article in final form and present it to the EMHSCC at the March 2005 meeting.

**Common Language Protocol:** No report.

**Protocol on use of I-CALL/TAC:** There was a discussion on the need for the development of a protocol on the use of the I-CALL/TAC system and radios. All were reminded that such a protocol was developed and is part of the training that was done. The protocol is also on the quick reference cards that were provided. It was decided that a reemphasis of the protocols could/should be the topic of another article.

**UASI and ICTAP:** The UASI towns are waiting for the FY 04 HSGP grant. It was reported that the FY 04 grant "arrived" in CT yesterday (14 March). Now that the FY 04 grant has been approved and arrived, funds will be distributed to UASI and the municipalities.

On 16 February 2005, a signed by Commissioner Thomas was sent to ODP requesting Interoperable Communications Technical Assistance Program (ICTAP) to service all of CT. The ICTAP representative stated that one of the requirements of the FY 05 HSGP grant was for the State to select an urban area and develop a Tactical Interoperability Communications Plan. The communications plan requirement is part of the requirement to develop a table top exercise centered on an urban area and an improvised explosive device (IED). A review of the FY 05 HSGP grant application needs to be made.



## May- 2005 Newsletter

**The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.**  
**Organized, 1902**

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**FY05 SHSP Grant:** The EMHSCC approved the funding allocation formula drafted by the ISIP workgroup on 10 February 2005. New MOAs will be drafted and distributed to the 169 municipalities and two tribal nations soon. Informational meetings on the FY 2005 HSGP will begin the week of 21 March and conclude one 31 March. Eight (080) sessions will be held regionally during the day and evening&

**Request form the Civil Air Patrol:** No one present new anything about the topic so it was tabled until the next meeting.

**Data Network Survey:** OSET recently forwarded a request for information survey on data networks. The survey is intended to gather information regarding Connecticut data networks currently serving public safety. The information gathering is part of the process to develop projects using the 9- 1 -1 surcharge funds.

**ICALL/TAC Handheld Radio Cache:** Clarification was sought from the group regarding where an IC/UC should turn to get additional I-CALL/TAC radios during a response to an incident. All agreed that beyond the radios (6) that come with a deployed decon trailer, the next resource would be the cache of radios held by DPS. Radios located in decon trailers NOT deployed to or-near the scene should not be stripped from the trailers and provided to an IC/US as a cache.

**Membership:** There was a discussion on defining the membership of the Interoperable Communications Workgroup. The workgroup has certainly grown from the original members and tends to fluctuate from meeting to meeting. However, there is a recognizable corps of individuals/people that has remained steady. There may be an issue just over the horizon of who gets to vote on issues such as the approval/ disapproval of communications projects submitted by jurisdictions using HSGP and Fire Act Grant funds. AU members were asked to think about the issue and be prepared to at the next meeting.

**Unresolved Issues:** There were no reports on action items from the February meeting. It was recommended that somebody from the workgroup or the DEMES needs to reach out to Manchester on the CTGP issue. WHO?

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting for the Communications Interoperability Workgroup was set for **1300 Tuesday, April 12, 2005** at the CONNDOT facility in Rocky Hill.

The meeting was adjourned at 1434. However, all retired to the hangar for a demonstration on an example of the STOC system conducted by Gordon Shand.



## May- 2005 Newsletter

**The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.**  
**Organized, 1902**

### **Training Committee of the DEMHS Coordinating Council**

On May 9, 2005, SFA Morrisette called a meeting of the former "center of excellence" training committee. Chiefs, Dan Warzoha of Greenwich and Jack Casner of Cheshire were on this committee prior to the establishment of the new HS agency. This committee will now be known as the **Training Committee of the DEMHS Coordinating Council**. The meeting agenda included:

- Deputy Commissioner Sandford relating what he sees as the charge of this committee and the timeframes of what he expects from the new committee. Deputy Commissioner Sandford stressed the need for this committee to act fast and move to put a plan in place as soon as possible. The committee has a draft matrix that's will be discussed at next weeks meeting.
- Deputy Commissioner Sandford and Bob McGary presented an overview of the HSEC activities over the past year.
- Deputy Commissioner Sandford reviewed the ITAC and the STOCS frequencies
- Deputy Commissioner Sandford defined the need for additional Decon Trailer training as well as ITAC/ICALL radio operations. Training programs are being established and will be available in the future.
- It was discussed that as earlier recommended that CTTRAIN should NOT be used as a central location to track fire service/NIMS compliance. D/C Sandford will speak to FEMA and attempt to bridge this issue.

Chief Warzoha stated that in the committees opinion it was our intent to move in baby steps and establish some positive results or wins prior to moving forward with a large plan, the committee agreed.

Chief Casner stated that the proposed draft was a good start however we were at the point that other disciplines need to be at the table and that getting to those disciplines has been difficult.

The committee will be meeting weekly to meet the D/Commissioners request of a recommendation to spend 04/05 funds.



## **May- 2005 Newsletter**

**The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.**  
Organized, 1902

### **Commission on Fire Accreditation Inc.**

Tues, June 21, 8am-5pm

#### **Self-Assessment Workshop**

Wed, June 22, 8am-5pm

#### **Standard of Cover Workshop**

Workshops held at Sheraton Springfield, MA

Cost per program \$275.00

Attend both and SAVE

Both workshops, \$375.00

Register online at [www.CFAINET.org](http://www.CFAINET.org)

For more information, contact Keri Murphy, 866-866-CFAI or [keri@CFAINET.org](mailto:keri@CFAINET.org)

Submitted from Tim Wall

Please forward newsletter questions, comments, suggestion and additional articles/photos to:

John Evans Office:

800 835-0740

Marketing Manager Cell:

203 415-2067

United Cleaning and Restoration, LLC email: [jevans@unitedcr.com](mailto:jevans@unitedcr.com)



## May- 2005 Newsletter

**The Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, Inc.**  
Organized, 1902

### **IAFC NEWS ALERT**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: IAFC Conferences Department  
703/273-0911  
[www.iafc.org](http://www.iafc.org)

Mark your calendar for **Symposium in the Sun 2005**

Symposium scheduled for November 11–13, in Clearwater Beach, Florida

.....Save **November 11-13, 2005** for the Symposium in the Sun, the only national symposium for leaders of volunteer and combination fire departments.

Visit <http://www.iafc.org/conferences/vcos/documents/VCOSapp.pdf> to download a registration form (online registration will be available May 1).

The 2005 Symposium will be held at the Sheraton Sand Key in Clearwater Beach, Florida.

Visit <http://www.secure-res.com/group/login.asp?hotelid=784> to reserve your accommodations at the Sheraton Sand Key. You will need to enter VCOS05 as your password. You can also reserve your accommodations by calling the Sheraton Sand Key at 727-595-1611 and identifying yourself as attending the Symposium in the Sun.

Every leader of a volunteer or combination department should attend this comprehensive, industry-leading conference. Sponsored by the IAFC Volunteer and Combination Officers Section, the Symposium in the Sun provides dynamic educational opportunities that will help you lead your volunteer or combination department, countless opportunities to network and exchange ideas with your peers, entertainment and fun in the sun.

Conference details will be posted on the IAFC Web site, [www.iafc.org](http://www.iafc.org), in the next few weeks. A partner program is tentatively being planned at this time. Information will follow in May.

Don't miss out—make your plans today to attend Symposium in the Sun 2005!

Submitted by: Tim Wall



# INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

*Providing leadership for the fire and emergency services since 1873*

4025 FAIR RIDGE DRIVE • FAIRFAX, VA 22033-2868 • TEL: 703/273-0911 • FAX: 703/273-9363 • [www.iafc.org](http://www.iafc.org)

May 5, 2005

To: Presidents and Executive Directors of State Fire Chiefs Associations

I wanted to bring to your attention some information regarding changes in the way the federal government will distribute homeland security funds, and how getting involved in homeland security decisions at the state level has become more important than ever.

The Office of State and Local Government Coordination and Preparedness (OSLGCP) – the arm of the Department of Homeland Security that administers the federal homeland security grants – will change the way it does business (i.e., how it will invest grant funds) over the next few fiscal years to bring the grants in line with the National Preparedness Goal (“the Goal”). We expect that the final version of the Goal will be released in the near future.

As we understand it, the tentative timeline is as follows:

- In Fiscal Year (FY) 2006, the states and Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) cities will be required to submit addenda to their homeland security plans describing how they intend to meet the Goal. The addenda should focus on mutual aid, information-sharing, interoperable communications (across disciplines and jurisdictions), CBRNE detection and response, and medical surge/mass prophylaxis.
- In FY 2007, the states and UASI cities will need to completely revise their strategies to meet the Goal’s 36 capability requirements. These requirements are listed on [www.llis.gov](http://www.llis.gov).
- In FY 2008, OSLGCP will institute the assessment phase. The office will have had 18 months to gather data on the states’ and UASI cities’ capabilities, and will try to close any gaps that exist.

As you can see, all of the planning – and all of the funding – to meet the National Preparedness Goal will go through the states. That means the role of the state homeland security advisor is vital.

To make sure that your needs and priorities are included in the state plans, the IAFC strongly recommends that you meet face-to-face as the Board of Directors or officers of your state fire chiefs association with your state homeland security advisor (HSA) at least four times each year. Meet with the HSA in his or her office, or invite him or her to your state association meeting to provide a briefing and answer questions.

The IAFC will provide more information on the Goal as it becomes available.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Garry L. Briese".

Thank you.  
Garry L. Briese, CAE  
Executive Director